



## **Presentation to the Michigan House Transportation Committee February 15, 2012**

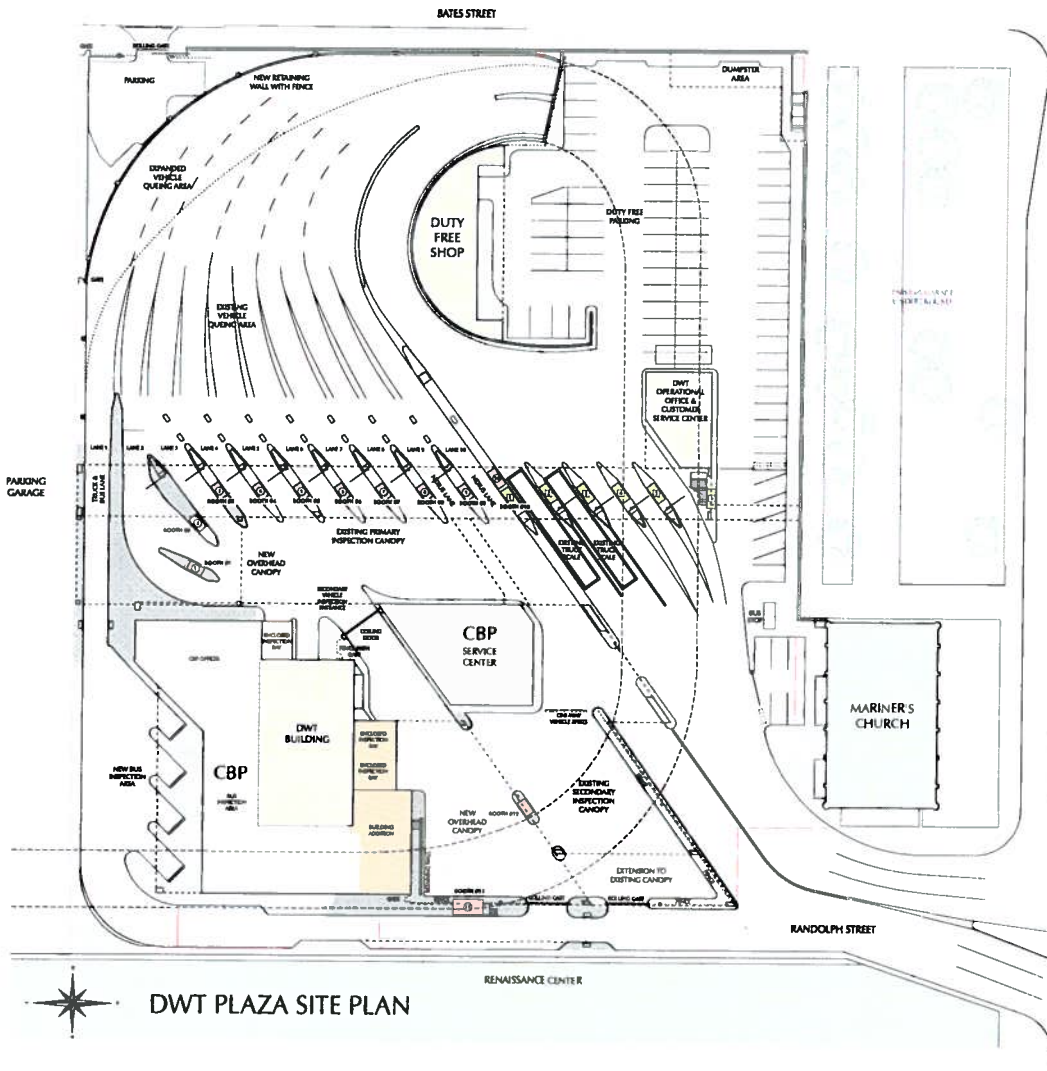
- **The Tunnel is a successful example of a public private partnership (P3)**
  - Long term lease with the City of Detroit
  - Joint Operating Agreement with the City of Windsor
  - Owned and operated by the Detroit & Canada Tunnel Corporation prior to 1990
- **The Tunnel is operated by Detroit Windsor Tunnel, an American Roads Company**
  - American Roads is the only interstate owner/operator/technology company in the US
- **The Company assumes all of the risk and responsibility for the Tunnel including operating and capital costs. The facility opened in 1930 at a cost of \$23,000,000. Since 1998 over \$40,000,000 in infrastructure, security and service improvements have been completed.**
  - Most recently \$7M+ in improvements for US Customs and Border Protection.
    - The Customs plaza for the 21<sup>st</sup> century.
  - Replacing high energy lighting fixtures with LED lighting
  - Modernizing all of the electrical and mechanical systems
  - Installed electronic tolling in 2010
  - The City of Windsor has a C\$30M plaza renovation planned for 2013.

- **FY 2011 traffic of 3.8 million vehicles including 44,000 trucks and 50,000 buses**
  - Annual traffic in FY 2000 was approximately 9,000,000 vehicles
  - One of the busiest land ports of entry and exit in the United States
  - Downtown to downtown connection
  - Local origin/destination for commercial traffic
  - Large commuter base that includes just under 3,000 Canadian medical personnel (nurses) working in SE Michigan hospitals, labs and clinics.
- **Unique Features**
    - Mature asset with 21<sup>st</sup> century customs, security, mechanical, electrical and tolling systems.
    - With a land locked plaza in Detroit, we've relied on design and technology to improve security and throughput.
    - Portal for one of the only international public transit systems in the United States. (Transit Windsor)
    - Provide US and Canadian border services on a 24 hour basis.
    - Michigan's 3<sup>rd</sup> most significant civil engineering projects of the 20<sup>th</sup> century and the number 10 construction projects of the 20<sup>th</sup> century in the US.

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**Legend**

- ▲ 00001 Phase 1 - Building 01 - DWT Bldg
- ▲ 00002 Phase 1 - Building 02
- ▲ 00003 Phase 1 - Building 03
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**Detroit/Windsor Tunnel Lane 1 & 2 Island Modifications**

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**CONSTRUCTION DOCUMENTS**

**DATE** 07/08 **BY** JLB/08

**SITE PLAN**

**A2.10**



100 E. Jefferson Avenue, Detroit, Michigan 48226

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### **The Detroit Windsor Tunnel**

- The Tunnel is operated by Detroit Windsor Tunnel LLC (DCTC) under a lease with the City of Detroit.
- DCTC is a division of American Roads LLC. American Roads is an American company owning and operating toll facilities throughout the United States.
- DCTC pays the City approximately \$1,300,000 per year in lease payments and property taxes. The lease payment is based on a formula specified in the lease, the term through November, 2020.
- DCTC assumes all risk as well as operating and capital costs.
- Over \$40,000,000 in operating and security improvement have been invested over the last 12 years.
- The Detroit toll plaza and Randolph Streets were recently expanded with NEXPRESS®; electronic tolling in Detroit.
- Making the Tunnel unique:
  - A mature asset with 21 century electrical, mechanical and security systems.
  - 24 hour international land border
  - Subaqueous with a transverse ventilation system.
  - **Necessitates operation as a unitary facility with one operating company**
- DCTC has a strong history of successful operation, community service and support for the City and the region.

## **Facts**

### **The Tunnel's Opening**

The Detroit Windsor Tunnel officially opened on November 1, 1930 and first opened to traffic on November 3. President Herbert Hoover ushered in a new chapter in U.S.-Canadian relations when he pushed a golden button at the United States Capitol to officially open the mile-long Detroit Windsor Tunnel. Construction took 26 months and cost \$23 million.

### **Tunnel Measurements**

The Tunnel measures 5,160 feet long (1,573 meters).

### **Passenger Border Crossing**

The Tunnel is one of the busiest border crossings between the United States and Canada, and overall, ranks in the top 15 crossings nationally. Annual traffic exceeds 5 million vehicles per year.

### **The Choice of Local Drivers**

The NEXPRESS® electronic tolling program speeds over 5,000 commuters through the Tunnel, both ways, everyday. The Tunnel is the mode that local drivers choose most and provides closer access to both downtowns and a more convenient crossing experience. Passenger cars comprise 97% of Tunnel traffic. All US inspection lanes have state of the art technology to read all Western Hemisphere Travel Initiative (WHTI) RFID documents.

### **Commercial Traffic**

Some 300 trucks pass through the Tunnel both ways everyday, hauling auto parts, steel, scrap, agricultural products and aggregate. Many suppliers and manufacturers are highly dependent on the tunnel as it is the centerpiece of an integrated U.S.-Canada supply chain, as just-in-time delivery systems plays a vital role in both nations' economic health.

### **Miscellaneous Facts**

The Detroit Windsor Tunnel remains the only underwater international vehicular (automobile) tunnel in the world, and it is a vital socio-economic link between the United States and Canada. The Tunnel was named Michigan's number 3 civil engineering and number 10 construction projects of the 20<sup>th</sup> Century.

### **For further information contact:**

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In 2011 American Roads released, **NEXPRESS® Monitor**, to provide a real time overview of travel times between selected starting and ending points. Average travel time data can be made available websites, and traffic reporting organizations. The system has been in use at the Detroit Windsor Tunnel international land border crossing. Summary results are automatically sent, via e-mail, to CBSA and CBP on a weekly basis.

The system consists of Bluetooth reading devices that anonymously pick up Bluetooth signals and calculates the travel time. There is no personal information being saved or recorded. Discovering a device does not provide access to the device. Examples of some of the types of devices that are being identified are GPS units, mobile phones; Bluetooth enabled vehicles and Bluetooth headsets.

The system can be reconfigured for a variety of intermodal uses.

Bluetooth is a proprietary open wireless technology standard for exchanging data over short distances (using short wavelength radio transmissions) from fixed and mobile devices, creating personal area networks with high levels of security. Created by telecom vendor Ericsson in 1994, it was originally conceived as a wireless alternative to RS-232 data cables (<http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Bluetooth>).

Further information contact: [nbelitsky@americanroads.com](mailto:nbelitsky@americanroads.com)







# Detroit Windsor Tunnel

[www.dwtunnel.com](http://www.dwtunnel.com)

